

Message Text

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BRUSSELS FOR LUCY, LONDON FOR SANDBERG

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT/ FRENCH MINISTER AND FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR COOPERATION BOTH LEAVE GOVERNMENT

REF: A) PARIS 1104; B) PARIS 1034

1. MINCOOPERATION PIERRE ABELIN HAS BEEN REPLACED BY
JEAN DE LIPKOWSKI. MINCOOP SOURCE SAD THAT ABELIN,
WHO IS 66, WAS REPLACED FOR TWO PRINCIPAL REASONS, HIS
INTIMATE INVOLVEMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF
NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RELEASE OF THE FRENCH SOCIOLOGIST
FRANCOISE CLAUSTRE AND A GROWING PERSONAL ANTIPATHY
BETWEEN HIMSELF AND PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC.

2. HIS REPLACEMENT, WHO SERVED AS SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURING THE MESSMER GOVERNMENT, WAS
INTERIM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATION FOR 3-4
MONTHS WHEN PRESIDENT PMPIDOU RESTRUCTURED THE GOVERN-
MENT IN FEBRUARY 1974 (OMITTING TO APPOINT A SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR COOPERATION). AT THE TIME, JEAN-FRANCOIS
DENIAU, THERETOFORE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATION,
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WAS MADE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE.

3. JEAN DE LIPKOWSKI, 55, WAS SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AFTER 1968 IN THE COUVE DE MURVILLE, CHABAN DELMAS AND SECOND MESSMER GOVERNMENTS. HE FOLLOWED THE FREQUENT PATTERN OF BEING BOTH DIPLOMAT AND POLITICIAN, HAVING BEEN ELECTED DEPUTY OF "SEINE ET OISE" DISTRICT IN 1956. HE WAS DEFEATED IN 1958, BUT WAS ELECTED DEPUTY IN "CHARENTE MARITIME" IN 1962 AS WELL AS MAYOR OF ROYAN.

4. JEAN-FRANCOIS DENIAU, WHO DID NOT APPEAR IN INITIAL GISCARD GOVERNMENT, BUT WAS LATER MADE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE, HAS BEEN REPLACED BY PIERRE MEHAIGNERIE. DENIAU WAS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING QUESTIONS OF AGRICULTUREAL POLICY WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. HE IS NO LONGER PART OF GISCARD GOVERNMENT. EMBOFF WAS ADVISED BY SAME MINCOOP SOURCE THAT REMOVAL OF DENIAU WAS MOST PROBABLY BECAUSE OF GROWING UNEASINESS OF RELATIONS WITH AGRICULTURE MINISTER CHRISTIAN BONNET AND BECAUSE DENIAU'S IMAGE/STYLE, SIMILAR TO THAT OF PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING WAS VIEWED AS RIVALISTIC BY CERTAIN SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (TAKEN TO MEAN CHIRAC).
RUSH

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